

Saint Joseph's College STUFF

Does Saint Joseph's discriminate against disabled students? Story page 4.

Issue 8

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Volume 58

Religion instruction and insight offered by Campus Ministry

by Julia Garcia

"I thought that it was time that I found out about my faith," said sophomore John Osborne, a member of a new class called "Becoming Catholic."

The class was started by Sister Linda Kors because "there were many students who wanted to become Catholic or just learn more about the Catholic faith," said Kors.

The instruction is not exactly a class since students receive no credit. Sessions meet every Monday from 4 to 5:30 in the Campus Ministry office.

The class is coordinated and taught by Sister Linda, but there are other faculty and people from the local parish

who participate in the sessions.

The session topics range from studying the Old Testament to reflecting on the importance of God in each student's life.

"The class is interesting and clarifies a lot of the misconceptions people have about religion," stated senior Amy Skaggs.

Sister Linda feels that the class could be of great benefit to many students and faculty and encourages everyone to join by getting in contact with her.

"The students are really excited.... They are there because they want to be there, and not because they are required to," added Sister Linda.

Core building ahead of schedule

by DeAnn Hazzard

The new addition to the Saint Joseph's College campus is in the full swing of its development.

The ground breaking of the new Core building was in October of 1994, and its completion date was scheduled for April of 1996.

However, due to excellent weather conditions, construction is two to three months ahead of schedule, which means that the building may be completed in either September or October of 1995.

According to President Shannon, faculty will be moved into the building in the fall along with the technology needed for the Core

lectures, which includes overheads, movie and slide projectors, computers, lights, and VCRs.

The Core building is expected to be fully functional for faculty as well as students in January, of 1996.

The preliminary plans are tentative for the completion of the landscaping and of the pedestrian plaza to be located in front of Seifert Hall.

Four giant pillars and a bronze emblem of SJC will welcome students into the completed Core building.

Alumni bricks, which are being sold for a \$1000 donation, enable the supporter's name to be a real part of the Core building.

The new Core build-

ing meets all current ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements, and is totally accessible to all students with handicaps.

Classes, science labs and faculty offices will probably be located in the science building when the Core building is complete.

To dispel the rumors that the inevitable increase in tuition is because of the new Core building, Shannon said, "Money for the Core building has nothing to do with tuition. Money for the Core building are restricted donations for that project alone.

Shannon added, "We will not take money out of our current operating budget to pay for it."

Senior class president discusses graduation plans

by Becky Johnson

"Right now, everything is revolving around graduation, and good time management skills are necessary," Senior Class President Holly Rosencrantz said.

Rosencrantz and other officers work diligently to create things for all Seniors.

Rosencrantz stated, "Former class president Heather Rhodes made a big contribution by nominating all of the officers, including myself."

"Parties and committees are being planned out as well as Senior Awards which take place in April," stated

Rosencrantz..

"The first Champagne Breakfast will take place Feb. 23. The second breakfast will be held closer to graduation."

"I think getting really involved in college is a major thing," Rosencrantz said. Senior Mary Graham advised that students "get involved in campus life and Puma activities."

Senior Frances Schwartz agreed that involvement is important for seniors. Her advice was to "get to know the people in your dorm."

"The Core Program has been the most beneficial aspect of my education at

Saint Joseph's and the most applicable to my life," stated Schwartz.

Graham agreed, saying, "Core covers a broad spectrum of information which is particularly beneficial for education majors."

The most important advice that Rosencrantz has for fellow seniors is "do not procrastinate...although sometimes it's hard not to."

Graduation will take place on May 7th. "Blue gowns will be worn. Extra scarfs of different colors might also be worn to signify each individual's grade point achievements."



Photo by Rachel Hempel

Although it is currently an inconvenience to students and faculty, the construction of the Core Building will pay off even earlier than planned, with a possible completion date of September 1995.

New feature of STUFF: Student Senate briefs to be run in every issue.

National alcohol stats fit Saint Joe's

I've heard the excuses many, many times throughout my four years at SJC.

"There's just nothing else to do on the weekends."

"I wouldn't have to drink if there were things to do in town."

"I'm just being social."

The excuses, and that's all they are, go on and on.

I am not against drinking or partying. I've had the occasional drink and been to the occasional campus party. I am, however, against drink-

ing and partying when things go too far.

Students at Saint Joseph's College, as well as college students around the country, have begun to place too much emphasis on alcohol. It's getting out of hand.

Statistics from the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (available from the Office of Student Affairs) paint a grim picture of twenty-something college life. It's a picture that many of us should be able to relate to based on our experiences here.

*95% of violent crime

on campus is alcohol-related.

*90% of all reported campus rapes occur when alcohol is used (by the assailant, the victim or both).

*80% of all campus vandalism is alcohol-related.

*40% of all academic problems can be traced to alcohol usage.

*Estimates of alcoholism range from 10-15% of the college population.

When one in three college students drinks for the sole purpose of "getting drunk," there is a problem.

Drinking with friends in a controlled environment

can be fun. There's a problem, however, when things go too far.

As students, as friends, as members of a shared community, we need to protect ourselves and others.

The statistics I quoted were based on national surveys; however, they could have been lifted from the responses of a Saint Joseph's survey.

It's time we take back our campus. It's time we take a look at ourselves and decide not to become a national statistic.

--jml

Students responsible for planning future dorm security policy

Being a member of a community involves a certain level of responsibility. For a community to succeed, all of its members must be responsible to one another.

We, at Saint Joseph's College, are a community, living and learning together; however, we lack the vital element of responsibility in our community.

We have the power to control certain things about our College environment; yet, few students bother taking an active role in their life on campus.

For example, the administration and faculty have deemed that a security system of some sort is neces-

sary for the dorms. It is inevitable that some sort of policy or device will be placed in the resident halls.

Right now, the Student Life committee is working on a proposal to give to the Student Senate regarding this issue. While the Student Life committee does include a few student representatives, the voice of the student body as a whole is not represented.

Therefore, a policy will be decided probably without your consent or approval. You, the student, will be expected to follow whatever system or policy is put into effect or suffer whatever punishment(s) the administration decides to tack onto the

policy. You will be forced to obey and accept anything that the administration puts forth.

Don't you want input about how your dorm will be secured? Don't you feel that your input regarding security violation discipline is important?

Talk to your dorm senator. Call Bill Maniscalco's office. Go to a Student Senate meeting. Ask Ernest Watson questions.

Get interested in what affects you as a student. Right now, we have the power and capabilities to voice our opinions and tell the administration how we feel about this issue.

There will be a secu-

rity system and/or policy developed and put into effect soon. Instead of bitching about it later, we need to do something about it now.

As students, we need to realize the importance of what is happening on campus and what can be done about it.

It is our dorms that are going to be affected by any future policy. It is the way we live our life that will change.

We need to be responsible to ourselves and our community by taking action, instead of a quiet, passive position.

It is our responsibility to decide how we want to live.

--jml

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Letters must be between 350-500 words. Letters must be signed and include a telephone number. If the author of the letter does not want his/her name used, include a pseudonym to be printed. The Editorial Board can elect not to print a letter that conflicts/violates the newspaper Editorial Policy or conflicts/violates College doctrine. Editors reserve the right to edit letters for length. Letters can be e-mailed to stuff.opinion@students@sjc or delivered to the newspaper office located in the Chapel Basement.

STUFF is the official newspaper of Saint Joseph's College. STUFF is published approximately every two weeks, for a total of twelve issues per year. Occasionally, events warrant a special issue and at such times, there will be additional issues. STUFF is printed at the Rensselaer Republican and distributed conveniently around campus.

Habitat goes to Oklahoma for Spring Break

by Peg McLeish

Are you still trying to find a way to spend your Spring Break? You may want to consider spending the break helping others with Habitat for Humanity.

Chris Zanowski, Assistant V.P. for Student Affairs and Director of Campus Life, is organizing a trip to Tulsa, Oklahoma for the week of spring break.

The cost for the students will be \$160.00. This cost includes the basic food, housing, transportation and fees.

The group will have approximately eight-hour work days, beginning at 8:00 am. The volunteers will be working primarily on clearing land of shack housing so that new homes can be built for local citizens in need.

Much of the work will be done in the backroads, which will help the students get closer to the community's area and people, who are typically very welcoming to volunteers.

The students will also have the opportunity to learn about the culture of the people, including the food and local customs.

Oklahoma has the second highest population of Native Americans in the United States and is renowned as the home of the Cherokee Nation. The trip to Oklahoma this spring will be the seventh trip to date.

Previous sites include home in Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Virginia, and Georgia. The trip this spring was originally planned for Georgia; however, at the decision

of the Georgia affiliate, that site was canceled.

Zanowski, the primary coordinator of the trip, said that he believes that going to Oklahoma will be more appropriate.

This is due to the fact that the group has gone to Georgia within the past four years, and at least one student going this spring may have already been on the previous Georgia trip. Oklahoma will provide new opportunities for students.

No official sign-up has occurred as of yet. There is space for twenty students for the trip. Cafeteria numbers will be collected for dinner on Feb. 27th in order to provide food for the volunteers on the trip. For more information, those interested should call Zanowski at extension 6125.



Photo by Jeffrey Kirch

Saint Joseph's College students who volunteered their time to help build this house in Rensselaer last October may be interested in taking a trip to Tulsa, Oklahoma with Habitat for Humanity. The trip would be a rewarding way for students to spend Spring Break.

S.J.C. Student Senate Brief

by Jeffrey Kirch

In his report at the Student Senate meeting Jan. 29, SA President Eric McKeown urged the Student Senate to become informed and interested in the security situation at Saint Joseph's College.

No definite plans have been made at this time, but Vice President for Student Affairs, Bill Maniscalco reported that the favored plan, a swipe card system, would cost \$25,000. This price includes only servicing the women's dorms. Each additional dorm would run \$6,500.

After being questioned by McKeown about the use of a swipe system to "track" students, Maniscalco said, "The system does keep a log of all entries into buildings, but this would be used usually only for legal issues."

Installation of the se-

curity system, according to Maniscalco, would raise the price of room and board, but with a re-working of the budget, the system would not significantly raise room and board prices.

The official decision concerning the new grading scale was passed unanimously. According to a table compiled by the Registrar's office, the number of first semester 4.0's dropped from 60 in 1993 to 28 in 1994.

In an open forum, the Senate discussed McKeown's suggestion of requiring senators and governors to hold monthly meetings.

McKeown believes that these meetings will make the Senate more representative of the student body, will make the students better aware of their dorm incomes and expenditures, and will allow the students to question their leaders.

Lewis grant offers new possibilities for Admissions Office

by Ashley Pierce

In December, the Frank J. Lewis Foundation awarded a \$10,000 grant to the Admissions Office which will be used to purchase computer equipment.

In order to promote and extend the Catholic faith, the Foundation annually awards grants to Roman Catholic educational institutions, churches, social services and hospitals.

According to Dean of Admissions, Louis Levy, the grant will be used to purchase necessary office equipment which will "move us from the cutting stone into the 21st Century."

The computer equipment is part of a project to improve the Admissions staff's quality of communication and follow-up and tracking activities with current and

prospective students.

Equipment being purchased includes: a laptop computer, a printer and four desktop computers, two of which will be used in the Admissions Office, while the remaining two will be used in the Athletic Department.

"The new equipment will allow the Admissions Office and the Athletic Department to communicate with each other and will also allow our personnel to increase its word processing capabilities," commented Levy.

The computers will not only improve inter-office communication, but will enhance the quality of communication between the Admissions Office and students as well.

Through the use of computers, the Admissions Office will be able to com-

municate with students faster, easier and more accurately than before.

"It will help make us more proficient, and this will allow us to communicate with students more efficiently and more accurately," commented Levy.

Improving the office machine technology in Admissions will also aid the office in the area of recruitment.

By improving the proficiency and professionalism of the Admissions Office, the new computer system will provide the office with an efficient way to increase the number of applications and inquiries it reviews.

Levy stated, "It will expand our technological capabilities and make us more competitive, and at no cost to the college."

Sacco's World

by J.W Sacco

The other night I had this really weird dream that I was arrested for some reason (I don't remember for what). However that wasn't the unusual part; I was brought to jail and eventually went to court for my crime. (I stress again, I don't remember what for.)

Now here comes the unusual part...when I was in court the judge was the arresting officer. So now here I am, sitting in court with two years of my life in the hands of the same guy who busted me. I knew what the outcome would be not in my favor. Realistically, why would the arresting officer make himself look bad by letting me off the hook? Just as the judge (arresting officer) was giving the guilty verdict, I woke up. I was sweating and really scared.

I was relieved that this was all just a dream...I mean, how fair would that be to someone...let's say on this campus if the same person who busted you was going to be the same person who laid the verdict and punishment on you. Not fair huh... kiddies?

Well guess what students..... that is happening here!!! You may not know what I'm talking about but the administration sure the hell does, and it's just not fair!

Now the question is: what can we do about this?... I don't want to be the one to stir up any controversy but, when I realized this, I was very disappointed in the College. Will this change? I don't know. Can we make sure this changes?? We can sure try.

This form of justice is totally against the American way of life and that is one of the reasons it upsets me. Your point of view will now be totally shut out... because the arresting officer is not going to admit that he was wrong... Would you? **THINK ABOUT IT!!!!**

The Features Staff wishes everyone a Happy Valentines Day!!!

Is it difficult for a disabled student to attend Saint Joseph's?

By Sean Mangan and Klaudia Janek

Suppose you were confined to a wheelchair and were thinking about coming to Saint Joseph's? The entire campus would need to be handicapped accessible to allow admittance to all the facilities. Would St. Joseph's be able to accommodate your needs?

"Seeing how I worked with the mentally and physically handicapped all summer, it should come as no surprise that I believe St. Joe's handicapped accessibility to be weak," stated Sophomore Jill Ogger. If you were to look around campus it is easy to see that a majority of the buildings are not accessible by a wheelchair. The buildings that are accessible are: the science building with limited accessibility from the back, Seifert and Aquinas have ramps leading to the first floors and Halleck has partial accessibility.

With Halleck being one of the most frequently used buildings for all students, it seems illogical that this essential building is not more easily accessible. Entry is possible into Halleck through the service entrance in the back but help would have to be available each time the student needed to enter the building. Finally, it would be a hassle for any student in a wheelchair to attend athletic

events, since their only alternative would be to watch from the floor.

Professor Karen Craig, who has been in a wheelchair in the past, spoke from experience on the difficulties of trying to get around campus. Craig pointed out some more buildings on campus that are not handicapped accessible. "Well, McHale definitely is not [accessible]. How do they get to the bank, the registrar's office, the third floor lab if they are going to deal with elementary education or if they're in math and they have a lot of their classes up on that third floor? If they want to go see the President they cannot get into that building. Those things are gone for handicapped people [at SJC]."

Craig also discussed some more potential problems. As far as the dormitories are concerned, Seifert is an option because it has ramp access to the first floor. Aquinas has a ramp and the handicapped can get to the first floor but could not live there because there is nothing to get them upstairs. From these facts, a female student could not reside at Saint Joseph's, unless some accommodations were made to the women's dorms. The Macintosh labs would obviously be off-limits along with entry to the music department. They could never go to the SA office, the writing lab, or the classrooms.

Is Saint Joseph's legally

bound to accommodate the needs of handicapped students? "The campus cannot refuse the handicapped admittance if they meet all the other criteria. Once they are admitted, then the college is legally responsible to make as many accommodations as they possibly can," said Craig. The college has had to make several accommodations for students. For example, yellow stripes had to be painted on all exterior steps and machines that enlarged print were made available for students with poor vision.

Probably the most important factor why we are not handicap accessible is because this is an old campus. There were no laws or regulations in effect when most of the buildings on campus were built. Since we don't have any students with special needs attending SJC right now, money does not have to be invested in making handicap accommodations.

Looking towards the future, the new Core Building will be completely handicap accessible. But this, however, may not be enough for a handicapped person to consider going here. "To appreciate the importance of handicapped accessibility one must look at the brilliant individuals we are excluding because of our oversight," said Ogger. "Take a look at Saint Joe with a careful eye- would you feel discriminated against if you were handicapped?"

Do you ever get bored in this worldly, cosmopolitan town of Rensselaer? Well, the staff of the Features section has decided to keep you updated with concerts and other events which may be of interest to our avid STUFF readers. If you know of any events, or have any comments about this new section please e-mail, StuffFeatures@Students@SJC.
Compiled by Jenny Palecek
CONCERTS!

Elliot Hall-Purdue University
West Lafayette

***Alan Jackson- Feb. 25**

Ft. Wayne Coliseum Expo Center
Ft. Wayne

***Pantera with Typo O Negative- Feb. 21**

***Spin Doctors with Rusted Root- Feb. 24**

***Amy Grant-March 9**

***Brooks and Dunn-March 30**

Indiana Convention Center
Indianapolis

***Megadeath with Corrosion of Conformity-Feb.8**

Market Square Arena
Indianapolis

***Tom Petty-March 1**

THEATRE!

Butler University
Indianapolis

***Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat-March 21-26**

Elliot Hall-Purdue University
West Lafayette

***Jesus Christ Superstar-Feb.17**
Loeb Playhouse-Purdue University
West Lafayette

***Macbeth-Feb. 10-12, 14-18**

***Othello-March 23**
Chicago Theatre

***Fiddler on the Roof-Feb. 21-26**
ATTRACTIONS!

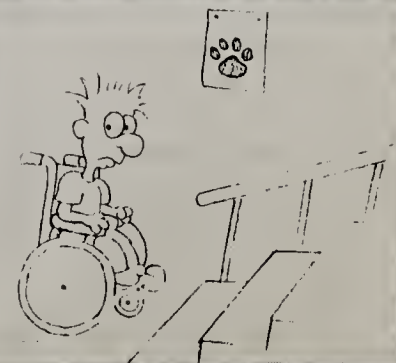
Children's Museum of Indianapolis
Indianapolis

Laser concerts featuring-

***Pink Floyd: Visions**

***Led Zeppelin: Whole Lotta' Led Feb. 17-18, 24-25**

For Tickets to all events call: (317) 743-5151



Artwork by Jason Deerwester

Many academic services are available to SJC students

By Audra Bailey

So you're feeling frustrated, confused, and just plain "lost!" And that's okay! Why? Not only is Spring Break only a few weeks away, but Saint Joseph's College provides its Pumas with awesomely effective academic services!

The Writing Clinic, Tutoring Services, and the Reading Improvement Center are all conveniently equipped to be of service to any student by request. So, guess what? You needn't feel so "lost" anymore with this kind of help!

John Groppe, Associate Professor of English, staffs, directs, and oversees the Writing Clinic. Located in his office in Halleck 206, a student can find experienced help from student tutors recommended by the faculty for the task of writing a paper. Groppe said, "Our staff can help students with almost any aspect of writing a paper- from where to start, to drafts, to proofreading a final copy."

The Writing Clinic also evaluates the work of the paper, sending a

copy of this evaluation to a student's professor. "In receiving the evaluation, the professor is aware of the student's attendance, time, and effort- a strive toward learning and improvement," said Groppe.

Don't think that just because you're no longer writing Core 1 papers that the Writing Clinic will turn you away! Monica Serrani claimed, "We take all kinds of papers, essays, resumes, applications- just about anything!"

Students can find a kind of haven in Halleck 206 for excellent writing instruction. The Writing Clinic tutors for this term are Jackie Leonard, Monica Serrani, and Emily Karol. They are available on Monday through Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m., with an additional time slot of 3:00-4:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday only. According to Groppe, "Those who come usually come again and again!"

Counseling Services provides faculty recommended student tutors in a program of Peer Tutoring directed by Diane Jennings, Director of Coun-

seling Services, and Audra Bailey, Student Director of Tutoring. By checking out the Tutor Board outside of the Counseling Services Office in Halleck, names and extensions of only the best tutors can be found. Be it in the library one on one or in the Halleck Center with a group, the tutors can help those lost and confused souls to review and retain course material because they work WITH the professors. Student tutor Chris Cripe said, "With the cooperation of BOTH the tutor and the tutee, learning of some kind is bound to happen." And that's a good thing.

The Tutoring Program also evaluates a student's efforts and improvements during the tutoring sessions, which are sent to the tutees' professors during mid-terms and finals. So, who benefits from the tutoring? Jennings said, "Who doesn't benefit? The students, professors, and tutors all reap the rewards."

"The Tutoring Program has served hundreds of students in the past. It is one of the most effective and widely used services at the Col-

lege," Jennings said. "The faculty has been very supportive, especially in their cooperation of feeding the finest students into the program," she said.

Dr. Jerry Garrett and a handful of helpful students are available for reading instruction at the Reading Improvement Center. Although the program is still underway, Garrett and his students are open to any suggestions that would better service the College in this instruction. Garrett said, "There are some students out there who struggle with every new course book they have to read. We want to help them out." Is this not one of the greatest services ever?

And so, although Spring Break is still a few weeks away, take a deep breath and relax. Take the Core paper to the Writing Clinic, check out the Tutor Board for that Physics tutor, or call Dr. Garrett for some quality reading instruction.

The academic services provided by Saint Joseph's are made especially for you, regardless of how frustrated, confused, or lost you are!

Student wins national title in Austin, Texas

by Matt Owens

Congratulations goes out to freshman Rachel Hempel, on her honor of being the runner-up in the National Honey Bee Queen Contest.

Many may ask what exactly the contest is all about. First of all, it must be understood that it is not a beauty pageant. Hempel, from Galien, MI, found out about the competition through her dad, who is an avid beekeeper. The contest is for females over the age of 18 who know about beekeeping. This year, Rachel decided at the last moment to compete.

Her decision was apparently a wise one because she ended up the victor at Michigan State in the State Competition. At the state level, the judges look for people who easily interact with others and that have an overall good disposition towards life.

Last semester, Rachel went on to the week long National Competition held in Austin, TX. There, the judges looked at the same things they did in the State Contest, but they also looked at the knowledge the con-

stants had concerning bees, honey, and all the other related aspects of the industry. At the very end of the tiresome week, all the contestants were given one last interview and the winner was determined.

Even though Hempel did not garner first place, she made a very good down to earth impression with the judges because she was named the runner-up. Hempel is now the National Spokesperson for the Beekeeping and Honey Industry for 1995.

As a result of her successes at both the state and national levels, Hempel has received a nice sum of scholarship money and has made many connections with important people from across the country including lawyers, a profession she would like to get into, and important agricultural experts.

Hempel's connections will only continue to grow as she spends time traveling all across the country this year to state fairs and other agricultural based events.

Her travels start with a trip to Denver CO in March for a media

training session where she will learn how to handle the different questions and problems that might arise during her travels.

One of the nicest things is that all her expenses are paid so she need not worry about any money problems while on the road.

Hempel hopes that she is able to keep up on the work she has here

at school and that her engagements around the country fall mostly during the times (Spring Break, summer, etc.) when school is out.

Hempel's reign as the Honey Bee Queen runner-up will end next year when she and the Queen will crown the new victors in the next National Competition. But until then, the glory is hers.



Photo courtesy of Rachel Hempel

1995 American Honey Princess Rachel Hempel posing with Judge Roger Olson and his wife Jan. of Minnesota

Track team is confident about future

by Erin Breetzke

The spring sports' season is in motion, and the Puma track and field team is running like a well-oiled machine. Having already competed in a few meets this year, the team has walked away with both success and the knowledge of what still needs to be improved. Though the season is still young, many members agree that, so far, this is turning out to be a promising year.

Team members seem to agree that teamwork is what makes a prosperous season.

Veteran thrower, Senior Rodney Geter, is quite impressed by others' performances. "I feel real good about the season because the incoming freshmen know how to contribute to the team."

One of those freshmen Geter speaks of is fellow thrower Toby Cheatham. In appraising his own performance at a recent meet in Chicago, Cheatham said, "I did really well and placed high. My goal is to qualify for outdoor Nationals, and indoor competition is prepar-



Freshman Jamie Bach is timed by her coach during training for a previous meet inside the Recreation Center. Bach is one of the many talented Freshmen on the Puma Track Team this year.. Photo by Rachel Hempel

ing me for that."

Many members unanimously voted that the Chicago meet was the greatest success of this early season. For some it was a more personal triumph, yet for others it was more of a team effort.

Geter explained how the team is in dual competition. "We are not only competing against the other team, but with ourselves."

Other members feel that no matter who wins by points, the team always wins in some way because every

meet brings them closer.

Senior Jen Seberger stated, "We've never come so close to beating Chicago before (Saint Joseph's came in second by two points), and the team pulled together and really motivated each other."

Even in such high

spirits and with such success, Geter and Seberger can still find faults in their performances and are working to improve them.

"I'm going to try to win for the team, but I'm going to concentrate more on doing my personal best," Geter said. "I need to work on the whole technique, and through practice I'll get it right."

As a four year track team member, Seberger knows exactly what she needs to do to improve her performance. "I need to get more consistent with my jumping."

With the outdoor season still to come, and with everyone's eyes on Nationals, the team members will attempt to make this season run like clockwork.

It would be hard to dispute that they have the material to win with, so it's just a matter of doing it.

Overall, members have great achievements to look upon, and many goals to push them into the right direction to finish their year off right.

March Madness comes to SJC

by Donna Bossung

Now that Superbowl XXIX is over, avid sports fans around the country are gearing up for March Madness, the NCAA Division I college basketball tournament. Students here at SJC are no different except that they will have a double dose of March Madness.

The college's annual IM basketball program, which began two weeks ago, finishes with a tournament the week after Spring Break. Competition is mounting and tension is rising as the teams strive for the cov-

eted SJCIMCHAMPS Tee-shirt.

According to the IM basketball director, Damon Scheidt, the competition is much steeper this year because the number of participants is larger.

There are three leagues in the program: a women's league, and two men's leagues. The men's league is divided into an A and B league based on a team's overall skill level. The choice of leagues is entirely up to the team.

There are five teams in the women's league, six in the men's A league, and nine in the men's

B league. Scheidt explained that these numbers have increased from past years, especially in the women's league and the men's B league.

After two weeks of play, several individuals are showing that they know how to play Indiana's most favorite game.

Leading the way in scoring for the women's league are Denise Fitzgerald and Donna Bossung.

Darren Haas and Chris George are the top scorers for the men's B league, and top point producers for the men's A league

are Brad Evans and Jason Rozanski.

The play of these individuals, in addition to their teammates, has led the following teams to the top of their league after the first two weeks: Get Along Gang (women's), Tidows (men's B), and Penetration (men's A). However, with four weeks left in the regular season and several teams being closely matched, the tournament is still a toss-up.

Every team will play in the tourney, and they will be seeded according to their record.

Scheidt explained that "this is good because all of the teams are pretty evenly matched, and any team can win on any given night."

March Madness at SJC definitely has the potential to heat up the cold winter nights.

Sports fans, as well as all other students, are invited and encouraged to come see all the action and their favorite hoop stars on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday nights from 7-10 p.m.

As Dick Vitale would probably say, "It doesn't get much better than this, baby!!"

Basketball teams remain positive, fight adversity

by Courtney Schopmeyer

Saint Joseph's College Men's and Women's Basketball teams are at the mid-point of their season. The men, led by Senior Harry Perry, are 9-9, while the women, lead by Seniors Lori Hissong and Stacie Shepherd, are 10-7.

In the Great Lakes Valley Conference the men have a record of 3-6. In addition to averaging 21.1 points per game, Perry leads the team in assists (82), steals (37), and free throw percentage (.836). Another leader in stats is Walter Perkins, who is averaging 5.1 rebounds

per game and leads the team in blocks with 19.

The women's team is 6-3 in the conference. Shepard leads the team in three pointers (19), rebounds (80), assists (60), and steals (34), while Hissong is the current leader in scoring (averaging 15.5 ppg) and in free throw percentage (.842). Heather Meyer leads the team in blocks with 27.

Recently, Shepherd emphasized the success the team is having with their new coach. She said, "We have had to do a lot of adjusting because

of our new coach. I like his style, it works better for our team. It really hurts us when we revert back to our old ways." She also stated that the freshman were "doing really well. I've been impressed!"

Shepherd believes the team stands a chance to continue in post-season play. The team's first goal is to win their conference; this will allow them to receive an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament. However, if the team is not the conference champs, they may still have a chance to go on. The top six

teams in each region are eligible for post-season play.

The men's team has experienced the worst kind of luck this season as it has been forced to deal with the graduation of five key players, not to mention various injuries. According to Junior Chad Pulver, who has missed several games with an ankle injury of his own, the team has only played two games at full strength. "Truthfully, the injuries have been our biggest problem," he said.

Coming off a very successful season last year when the

Pumas went to the NCAA tournament (a first round loss to Kentucky Wesleyan), Pulver admits that this year has been a little disappointing to the players as well as the coaches.

"[The coaches] have been just as discouraged as we have," Pulver said. "We are all doing everything we can to figure out what has been going wrong."

With seven games left in the regular season, the players and coaches are trying to stay focused and positive. As Pulver sees it, the team "should win" the seven remaining games.

High school cheerleader adds to SJC squad

by Jill Peterson

The Saint Joseph's cheerleaders have added another member to the squad. At the beginning of the second semester, they were fortunate to get a Kankakee Valley High School senior cheerleader to join the team. Staci Sytsma, who is taking a psychology class taught by Professor Alex Hall, says she felt lucky to have the opportunity to be a part of a group of talented cheerleaders. "I was given the chance to be an alternate during the first semester. Another girl decided not to cheer the second semester, so I

jumped at the chance to be a Puma cheerleader," Sytsma commented.

Staci's hobbies include coaching gymnastics and dance at GymFit in DeMotte and being an instructor for Pop Warner Cheerleaders. "My greatest accomplishments regarding cheerleading have been cheering at St. Joe and coaching. I really enjoy both activities," Sytsma noted.

"All of the girls treat me just like one of them. I thought that I might feel out of place at first," she said. "In high school it is different because I know all of the players

and people in the crowd. It is somewhat awkward not to cheer in front of familiar faces," Sytsma continued.

"Staci has added a lot of spirit and enthusiasm to our squad," Freshman Julie Lanoue commented. "She is a tremendous asset to us because she is very knowledgeable about mounting and has great climbing capabilities," observed Coach Karey Klott.

"We are able to do more advanced stunts with the addition of Staci to our program. Before, we only had two girls who were ca-

pable of being at the top of the pyramid," Freshman BioChemistry major Rachel Call said.

Sytsma is anxious to cheer at the collegiate level, yet she has not decided where she will attend. She plans to major in psychology.

The Puma cheerleaders are currently in the process of setting up a camp to be held this summer, which will be open for anyone to attend. It will be given by a group that puts on camps to assist cheerleaders, learn advanced dances, chants, and mounts.

The Lady Puma Cheerleaders

were invited to attend the football banquet held in the fall. "We really felt appreciated by the football team. A lot of the players gave us compliments and thanks for our spirit at their games," Sophomore Heather Braband noted.

"During basketball season, cheering can be more enjoyable because we don't have to worry about the weather conditions. We also are able to do additional mounts and stunts that would not be possible during football season," Klott said.

Quasney seeks to further her tennis career

by Emily Karol

Senior Mary Quasney has been playing tennis for 15 years, and her experience can be seen in her seasoned performance on the courts.

After she graduates from college, Mary plans on participating in the ITF Futures Circuit Pro Tour and building upon the experience she has gained at Saint Joseph's.

Her coach, John Barrientos, has instructed her for four years and said that he has seen quite a bit of progress in Mary's game, even though when she came to Saint Joe's "there was no doubt in anyone's mind that she would be #1."

Mary has lived up to those expectations, ranking first on the team in singles, and first with her

partner, Liz Rowden, in doubles. Just recently she won the Rolex Small College Tournament in Indianapolis, in singles and in doubles with Rowden, and was ranked #1 in the region.

Quasney feels she is ready and is very excited about the Pro Tour, which is sponsored by the World Tennis Association and takes place mainly in Europe. Mary will probably be one of the oldest participants, since most of the others will be around the age of fourteen.

The first Summer tournament that she will compete in is relatively small, but Mary believes that if she does well it could lead to bigger tournaments.

Coach Barrientos be-

lieves that this Pro Tour will not be glamorous, but, in fact, very demanding. He explained that the hotels/motels will not always be first rate and Mary might often have to live out of a car.

Barrientos feels that Mary will have to sacrifice in order to accomplish her goals, and that these goals have to be set before she begins. However, he believes that "Mary is very capable [of doing this]."

Mary stated that she's "kind of nervous [about the tour]" because she does not know what to expect, but she is very excited. However, Coach Barrientos believes that Mary will be successful at whatever she attempts.

He said that Mary has

always been a team motivator and helps to create a good atmosphere for the Tennis team.

Her teammates have looked up to her throughout her collegiate career, and Barrientos feels "she would make a fine coach."

Even though Mary hopes to be successful in her Pro career, she is also planning to further her education. Along with participating in the Tour, she will be applying to graduate school in order to keep many options open for her future.



photo by Rachel Hempel

Students Polled About Alternative Mealplans Findings Show Students Aren't Eating Every Meal They Pay For

by Kathleen Brass

For the first time last week I did something I had never done before here at Saint Joe's. It seemed almost strange to me, but I got up early and went to breakfast.

I don't know about other people, but to me that extra 15 minutes of sleep I get instead of going to breakfast is 100 times more valuable than a bowl of cereal or pancakes.

I also noticed that there were all of about 35 people in the cafeteria at 7:30.

This little oddity of going to breakfast made me realize that, every week I don't go to 6 meals, the money spent on those 6 meals that I am paying for in board is being wasted.

So, the idea for a STUFF article was born. Last week I conducted a little poll and surveyed approximately 60 students.

The questions on the survey were: "How many meals do you eat in the cafeteria each week?" and "Do you

feel that an alternative meal plan would be a good option for Saint Joe's students to have?"

On average most students ate only 14 or 15 meals per week on campus, and every single person polled answered "yes" to the second question that there should be alternative meal plans offered.

Everyone seemed to agree that the mandatory 20 meal plan for resident students is out of date and that the cafeteria should offer meal plans for people who eat often in the cafeteria.

According to Ken Fields, Director of Dining Services, "The savings that would reflect on a student's tuition, as a result of an alternative meal plan, would be minimal because the average student is only charged for approximately a 14 meal plan."

Fields also commented on the possible effects of a new plan. He explained that without the current meal plan the meal ex-

change program, in which students give up their cafeteria number for one meal and allow the proceeds to go to a student organization, would be impossible to have.

President Shannon also commented on the situation and said that he would like to know students' opinions about alternative meal plans.

When asked about the possibility of establishing new meal plans, President Shannon said, "Saint Joseph's College stands ready to meet reasonable student needs in this area."

Personally, I think that the present meal plan is sufficient. After all, it works well for the campus.

I am only interested in the possibility of saving money on board, by not paying for something I don't use.

If you have any comments about this issue, please e-mail us at StuffBack@Students@SJC as soon as possible. We would appreciate your input.

The Quote of The Week

"Multiply life by the power of two."

Emily Saliers

Happy Valentine's Day!

This piece of prose was submitted to The Back Page by senior Rita Hawkins. She received the poem years ago and wanted to share it with the Saint Joseph's community. Below is the story behind the verse and the verse itself.

Over a quarter of a century ago, a young man was in Southeast Asia, fighting an unpopular war. Every peaceful moment allowed him to think of the girl he had left behind. It was difficult for him to express his innermost thoughts, but he managed to find this beautiful verse. Sadly, the true meaning went unrecognized by the young girl; she broke his heart. Today, she still carries the verse; today she knows its meaning.

Love and Lust

Two short words - love and lust - monosyllables, four letters each. How powerful they are! How different one from the other! Love had its birth in heaven; lust was conceived in hell. Love is virtuous; lust is sinful. Love raises a man or a woman to holy heights; lust degrades a man or woman to the level of the brute beast, and even lower.

Love is beautiful, noble, self-sacrificing, pure; it seeks the good of the beloved; there is not a selfish note in the song of love. Lust is base, selfish, impure; it seeks nothing outside itself. Love it is true, is pure and therefore the best preparation for marriage; it brings down the blessing of God upon a young man and the girl he loves. Lust, since it can never be true, is never pure and hence is the worst possible prelude to marriage; lust draws down, not God's blessing, but God's displeasure.

The young man who truly loves a girl guards her purity almost jealously. He would give his very life to protect and preserve it. And men of character, courage and high ideals, have been known to do just that thing.

Time was when to be a young woman's escort was to be the champion of her purity, the guardian of her virtue. There are such men today, thank God; and if their number is not legion; it should be.

Joseph A. Frank

Destination Anywhere

by John Osborne

Memories are like time travel.
In the blink of an eye,
They return you to the past.
What you'll see you never know.

Sometimes it's a special place.
Other times an isolated magical moment.
And if you're lucky, old friends long gone.
When it comes to memories, it's up to you.

Memories can be pleasant or cruel.
They can be found or lost.
Occasionally they will leave you all mixed up inside.
Memories can do all these things because they are you.